



Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
Department of Highways District 9

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Sections of US 60 in Carter County dedicated as memorial highway for fallen firefighters

New highway signs honor two who died in line of duty

GRAYSON, Ky. – Two fallen Carter County firefighters were memorialized today with the unveiling of highway signs dedicating stretches of US 60 in their honor.

The 2011 General Assembly directed the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to erect memorial highway signs along the roadway in Carter County in honor of Hitchens Volunteer Fire Department firefighter Captain Worne Hall and Norton Branch Volunteer Fire Department firefighter Leslie Keith Gillum, both of whom died in the line of duty.

Gillum died April 8, 2004, several days after he suffered a heart attack while responding to a traffic accident. Hall died Nov. 19, 2010, following chest pains suffered while guiding a medical helicopter to a landing site.

“These men are true heroes who gave their lives in service to their communities,” said State Sen. Robin L. Webb, of Grayson. “While we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude we owe to them, and all our firefighters, these memorial highway signs will serve as lasting tribute of our thankfulness.”

The highway signs were first proposed in the Senate and later included in a larger piece of legislation, House Joint Resolution 19, which became law earlier this year. That law names US 60 between Grayson and Boyd County as the “Captain Worne Hall Memorial Highway” and the “Firefighter Leslie Keith Gillum Memorial Highway.”

“Our fallen firefighters, our fallen heroes, deserve our deepest appreciation. I am proud to have supported legislation for these memorial signs, which will express that appreciation for generations to come,” said state Rep. Jill York, of Grayson.

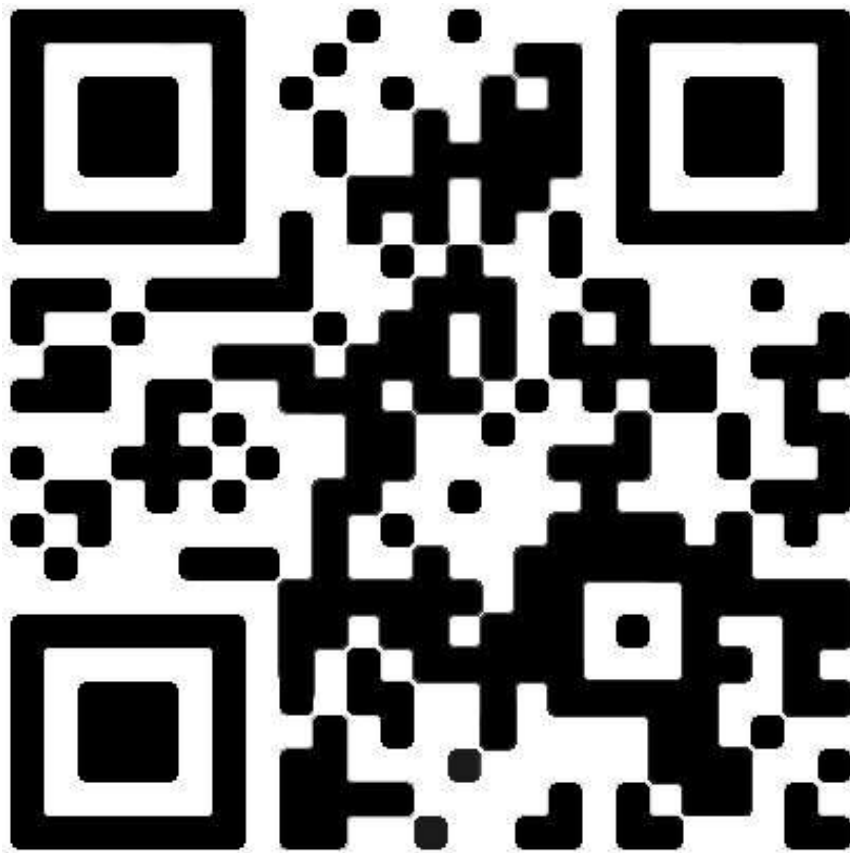
Transportation Secretary Mike Hancock said placement of memorial highway signs is a responsibility the cabinet takes seriously. “These signs are well-deserved and permanent tributes that will stand the tests of time,” Hancock said.

Including Hall and Gillum, US 60 in Carter County is now dedicated to the memory of eight emergency responders. Memorial highway signs were unveiled last year naming other sections of US 60 as the:

- Firefighter Randy Utley Memorial Highway
- Officer Jack Claywell Memorial Highway
- Constable Elmer Kiser Memorial Highway
- Sheriff Coleman Binion Memorial Highway
- Deputy Marshal Gus Hall Memorial Highway
- Officer Glen A. Stephens Memorial Highway

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